

MICHIGAN HOMES FOR VETERANS

Board of Managers Minutes

May, 21, 2014

The 1402nd meeting of the Board of Managers of the Michigan Home for Veterans was called to order at 9:05 A.M. on Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans by Manager Wilseck, Chair.

PRESENT: Managers:

Mary Wilseck, Chair	(AMEVETS)
Gerald Cool, Chair pro tem	(DAV)
Robert L. Johnson, Secretary	(The American Legion)
James Ausdemore, Member	(Independent)
Lino B. Pretto, Member	(Independent)
Ernest Meyers, Sr.	(VFW)

GUESTS: Kevin McCloud, Kim Olinger, Robert Bianchi, JoLinda White, Sonya VanValkenburg, Robert Porter, Karen Thompson, Deborah Alexander and Natalie Forbes.

Also present at the meeting: Sara Dunne, Administrator of the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, Brad Slagle, Administrator, D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans, Phil Yeiter, Process Improvement/Contract Compliance Officer, Peter Vu, Chaplain and Patricia Howard, Assistant Clerk of the Board.

BOARD PRESENTATION

Administrator, Sara Dunne, on behalf of the Board of Managers presented a plaque with a certificate of years of service to Karen Thompson, Accounting Manager, who is retiring after 34 years of service with the State of Michigan. Karen thanked the Board and several of her staff spoke on her behalf.

The invocation was given by Father Peter Vu.

OPENING CEREMONY: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

This meeting has been posted pursuant to Act 267 of the Public Act of 1976 – The Open Meeting Act – on the bulletin board in the corridor adjacent to the volunteer office, main building, Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. A notice of this meeting was also posted in the lobby of the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kevin McCloud, a member of the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans voiced his opinion regarding J2S workers not receiving a fair wage for all the hard work they provide. Stated that he and other members believe this is the reason for big turnovers with the caregivers and this makes the members uneasy because they don't have consistency within their housing units. Mr. McCloud took this concern to the Administrator, Sara Dunne and to the GRHV Member Council and is now reporting it to the Board of Managers.

The Board thanked Mr. McCloud for coming out and relaying these concerns but Manager Wilseck stated that the Board has no authority over the J2S workers' pay or any direct input concerning their compensation; they are contract workers hired through J2S. All of this information is being looked at will be taken into consideration when the next contract comes available. At the present all concerns should be directed to the legislators, senators, congressmen, etc.

Sonya VanValkenburg reported that August 23rd is Family Day at V.F.W. Camp Trotter and some of our members will be attending. Sonya requested approval from the board to take some members of the Home to the camp (sometime in August) schedule a Special Day just for veterans to the camp, date to be determined. Board gave their approval.

II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Johnson to approve the minutes of the meeting held April 17, 2014, as presented. All present approved, motion carried.

III. POLICY REVIEW

BP-021 – Interment in Cemetery.

Motion was made by Manager Cool to approve Policy # BP-021 as presented, supported by Manager Meyers. All presented approved, motion carried.

IV. ASSESSMENTS, REASSESMENTS AND ADMISSIONS AND POPULATION REPORT – GRAND RAPIDS

Motion was made by Manager Cool to accept the Assessments, Reassessments, Admission and Population Report as presented, supported by Manager Ausdemore. All present approved, motion carried.

Administrator, Sara Dunne reported that the census is at 93% occupancy – down from 95%. Sara stated that she and Brad Slagle are working diligently trying to find people that want to come into the Homes. Members are dying as soon as they come in. Sara and Brad are working to getting information out to the public, discharge planners, etc. that the Homes have vacancies. A lot of discharge planners were so used to the Home having a waiting list in the past that they were not contacting our facilities. This will be changing.

Administrator Brad Slagle stated that they are having the same problems with census at the D.J. Jacobetti Home. Their nursing census is barely over 90%. In the last month they admitted ten patients but lost thirteen due to deaths. Brad stated the need to get the word out to the D.A.V. that if a veteran is service connected (at least 70%) they can live at the Homes for basically free; the V.A. will pick up the charges.

V. FINANCIAL ISSUES – GRAND RAPIDS

Board Funds – Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Ausdemore to accept the status report for the In-House Funds, State of Changes in Fund Balances and Cash Donations as presented. All present approved, motion carried.

State Funds – Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Meyers, to accept the Revenue and Expenditures Report as presented. All present approved, motion carried.

VI. ADMINISTRATOR'S AND DIVISION REPORT

Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Pretto, to accept the Administrator's and Division Report as will be given. All present approved, motion carried.

Administrator, Sara Dunne reported:

- Member Finance has put together a process for notifying members to spend out when they are close to their \$2,000 asset limit.
- Bids for the Electronic Medical Records (EMR) have been put out by DTMB.

- The new chiller is here and will be installed soon. The second chiller and the cooling tower will be installed this fall.
- Our new physician, Dr. Paul Ackerman, M.D. is doing a great job.
- There is a no waiting list for nursing.
- Skipped Nursing Week celebration and instead implemented MVAA values and celebrated Nursing Home Week. This celebration involved everyone in the facility. It was a great week. Everyone was invited to view the "Happy" video that was made involving members and employees.
- No Member Dies Alone program selected the first group of volunteers and in-serviced them on the duties and responsibilities of a volunteer in this program.

VII. ADOPTION OF ASSESSMENTS, REASSESSMENTS ADMISSIONS AND POPULATION REPORT – MARQUETTE

Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Ausdemore to accept the Assessments, Reassessments, Admission and Population Reports as presented. All present approved, motion carried.

Administrator, Brad Slagle reported that they did get two guys upgraded to receive full cost of care who were less than 70% service connected. So far they have admitted seven and working on two additional. Brad stated that they are hoping to admit five before the end of the month.

Manager Wilseck stated that she is glad that the Home is admitting members on a Saturday; this really helps.

VIII. FINANCIAL ISSUES – MARQUETTE

Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Ausdemore to accept the In-House Funds, Statement of Changes in Fund Balances, Cash Donation, and the State Funds Reports as presented. All present approved, motion carried.

Administrator, Brad Slagle reported that the census does impact the revenue. Brad stated the important thing is that we have to get our census back up before we have to make any budget adjustments. Since 2009 D.J. Jacobetti has generated revenues in the range of \$100,000-200,000 a year because of good census and good increases through the V.A.

IX. COMMANDANT/DIVISION REPORT

Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Johnson to approve the Commandant's/Division Report as will be given. All present approved, motion carried.

Administrator, Brad Slagle reported:

- Hired an Administrative Assistant, Ann Barsch.
- Renovations are moving quickly ahead. The west wing should be completed by middle of June. The new floor in the family room is terrible and has to be redone. They are going to rip it up and put down a more traditional hard floor.
- The smoke damper project is completed and he will send documentation to the VA to complete the survey corrective action plan.
- Dr. Kahler, a psychologist has been coming in and helping to develop language around a member's challenging behavior.
- Set up a luncheon for Volunteers' to present the Presidential Award Pin & Letter that wasn't available at the Volunteer's Banquet in April.
- Read a letter of appreciation from a family of a member that is housed at the Jacobetti Home regarding the new State Service Office assigned to U.P. (Jessica R). There are concerns that she being a female and not a veteran, from other veterans but she is getting the job done and Brad and his staff are very pleased with her.

Manager Johnson stated that it was good to see in Dr. Skendzel's report how they are bending over backwards for a member to make things work for him and not throwing him out of the home. This was the case of Dr. Kahler coming in helping the member with the challenging behavior.

X. DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS UPDATE

Jim Dunn was not available as he is in attendance at another meeting in Lansing.

XI. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S UPDATE

Assistant Attorney General Mark Donnelly will be meeting with Sara Dunne, Brad Slagle and Jim Dunn after the meeting regarding the status of the Civil Rights Compliance Program.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

Grand Rapids – Mike Burri – Gift Shop

Mike Burri brought in a check for \$500 from Friends of The Michigan Veterans Homes to help with the purchase of hot dogs for the Boy Scouts Flag Program to be held today. Mike gave an update on the gift shop. The gift shop is almost complete and Fashion Has Heart 501.C3 will be running the shop. Friends of The Michigan Veterans Homes foundation has voted to allow \$5,000.00 from the charity golf outing this year to stock the gift shop. Mike gave an update on the financial report of what Friends has spent on the GRHV. Next month Friends will be catering a dinner for the Board Members and hopefully doing a dedication of the gift shop.

Policy # BP-026 Prohibition of Medical Marijuana

Motion made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Ausdemore to accept Policy # BP-026 as presented. Discussion followed. Sara Dunne stated that there is nothing in the policy about medical marijuana not being allowed on the premises of both Homes. We are a drug free facility per the State of Michigan. Brad Slagle stated that he feels a statement saying medical marijuana not being allowed on the premises falls under current policies of outside medications. **Motion was amended by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Ausdemore.** Brad Slagle will work on this policy per the discussions and bring back to the board for approval at the next month's meeting.

Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Ausdemore to approve Policy #BP-026 as amended and based on the attorney general's approval. All present approved, motion carried.

Marquette – None

Committee appointments are as follows:

Committee Appointments

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Manager Robert Johnson – Chair
Manager Gerald Cool
Manager James Ausdemore
Manager Ernest Meyers
Manager Lino Pretto
Manager Mary Wilseck

PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Manager James Ausdemore – Chair
Manager Gerald Cool
Manager Lino Pretto
Manager Mary Wilseck

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Manager Mary Wilseck – Sub Chair
Manager James Ausdemore
Manager Robert Johnson - Chair
Manager Ernest Meyers
Administrator, Brad Slagle – Advisor

STATE CEMETERY – UPPER PENINSULA

Manager Robert Johnson
Manager Mary Wilseck
Administrator, Brad Slagle – Advisor
Richard LaFave – Special Advisor

OMBUDSMAN

Manager Lino Pretto & Manager Gerald Cool (Alternate)

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Grand Rapids – None

Marquette – None

XIV. OPEN DISCUSSION

There was a discussion on a letter addressed to the Board from Greg McNeil asking the Board's permission to come back to the Home as a volunteer and participate in the Guitars for Vets Program.

Motion was made by Manager Meyers, supported by Manager Johnson, advising Administrator, Sara Dunne to prepare a letter in behalf of the Board allowing Mr.

McNeil to participate in the Guitars for Vets Program under the supervision for Jim Price. All present approved, motion carried.

Manager Cool introduced JoLinda White, Senior Vice Commander D.A.V. Department of Michigan and is going to the convention as Commander.

Manager Meyers questioned when the replacement for Richard LaFave will be appointed and in place.

Manager Meyers would like to see a certificate presented to Richard LaFave for 18 years of service as a Member of the Board of Managers – Michigan State Veteran's Home. Sara reported that there is something in the works and will be presented at the July 10th Board Meeting in Marquette.

Manager Meyers brought in a check for \$250.00 from V.F.W. Post #4406 Belding, for the Boy Scouts Flag Program to be held this evening.

Motion was made by Manager Meyers, supported by Manager Cool to move the July 17th Board of Managers Meeting from to July 10, 2014 to be held in Marquette. All present approved, motion carried.

Sara Dunne will do some research with Walt Sullivan and Brian Stedman regarding donations of trees to the Home.

A reminder to everyone that an official Memorial Day Program for veterans will be held here at the Home on Friday, May 30, 2014.

XV. CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

Closing invocation was given by Brad Slagle.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

2014 BOARD MEETING DATES:

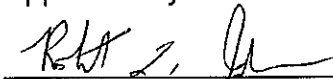
1. Wednesday, June 18, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.
2. Thursday, July 10, 2014 @ 1:00 p.m. at the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette.
3. *No Meeting August 2014.*

4. Thursday, September 18, 2014 @ 1:00 p.m. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. (*Pending-Volunteers Banquet*)
5. Thursday, October 16, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.
6. Thursday, November 20, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.
7. Wednesday, December 10, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

**THESE MEETINGS HAE BEEN POSTED PURSUANT TO ACT 267 OF THE
PUBLIC ACTS OF 1976-THE OPEN MEETING ACT**

Patricia Howard, Assistant Clerk of the Board

Approved by:



Robert L. Johnson, Secretary Board of Managers

6-18-14

Date